



United Methodist Church
of Westport and Weston

May 10, 2020
5th Sunday of Easter

Our Vision is to Know, to Live and to Share the Love of Jesus Christ.

Livestream Worship – 9:30am



THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

1 Peter 2:9-10 (*The Message*)

You are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of holy work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instrument to do God's work and speak out for God, to tell others of the night-and-day difference God made for you – from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted.

GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Happy the Home When God Is There
Ahyoung Son, piano

J. B. Dykes

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 31

The Railton-Jones Family

O Lord, hear my prayers!

God, in you I seek shelter.

Rescue me from my troubles.

God, in you I seek shelter.

Be a rock of refuge for me and a strong fortress to save me.

God, in you I seek shelter.

Lead me and guide me on the right path.

God, in you I seek shelter.

O God, I give you my spirit, for you have saved me in your steadfast love.

God, in you I seek shelter, today and always. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

UMH 110

Verse 1

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;

our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe;

his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Verse 2

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,

were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.

Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;

Lord Sabaoth, his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

Verse 3

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,

we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.

(continues on p. 2)

The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

Verse 4

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours, through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill; God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, you are our mighty fortress, our refuge and our strength in times of trouble. In you we find all that we need. Forgive us for relying too much on our own strength. Forgive us for denying that you are the source of our abundance. Forgive us for discounting your promise to be with us always, even in the midst of our fears. Give us the wisdom and courage to follow your ways. Bless us with the confidence to believe that you prepare a place of peace and safety for us. Receive our broken and mournful hearts, so that they might find wholeness, healing, joy and peace in you.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear these words of assurance, "God is our refuge, our strength, and the source of our salvation. Christ gave his life, so that we might know God's steadfast love and the promise of eternal life.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MOMENTS OF JOY

Pastor Heather

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

GOSPEL READING

John 14:1-14

Don Hazard

14 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."
⁸ Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?" ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

SERMON

“How Can We Know the Way?”

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SPECIAL MUSIC

Divertimento in F Major, Movement 1: Allegro
Chris Hisey, strings

W. A. Mozart

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

UMH 95

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – A LITANY FOR MOTHER’S DAY

THE LORD’S PRAYER *You are invited to pray in the version and language of your heart.*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom, and the glory, forever. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE

CLOSING HYMN

How Firm a Foundation

UMH 529, vv. 1, 2, 4 & 5

Verse 1

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Verse 2

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

Verse 4

"When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

Verse 5

“The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
Ahyoung Son, piano

W. J. Kirkpatrick

Portions of the Order of Worship are adapted from:

"A Litany for Mother's Day" by Rev. Patty Lawrence, www.revgalblogpals.org

The United Methodist Hymnal and The United Methodist Book of Worship, Nashville, TN: The United Methodist Publishing House

All music is in the Public Domain.

Our Mission is:

To Know the love of Jesus in personal ways through worship, prayer and study
To Live the love of Jesus through acts of compassion, gentleness and justice
To Share the love of Jesus in our homes, our community and the world
To Welcome all of God's children regardless of age, race, ability,
sexual or gender orientation, and economic circumstance.

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OUR MINISTERS

EVERY PARTICIPANT IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION

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